

Issue Date: September 8, 2006



PROGRAM SOLICITATION PS 06-06

for a Cooperative Agreement for an:

**INTERNATIONAL LITERARY EXCHANGE:
CONTEMPORARY RUSSIAN POETRY ANTHOLOGY**
(International Activities)

Issued by
National Endowment for the Arts
Grants & Contracts Office
1100 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20506

Proposals in response to this solicitation in original and two (2) copies will be received at the above address, or if hand carried, in Room 618, until 4:00 p.m. on **October 5, 2006**.

[The National Endowment for the Arts continues to experience lengthy delays in the delivery of First-Class and Priority mail. In addition, contents are subject to an irradiation process that may damage material. Please consider using alternative delivery services.]

For information on this solicitation, write or call:
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The National Endowment for the Arts

The National Endowment for the Arts is the largest annual funder of the arts in the United States. An independent federal agency, the National Endowment for the Arts is the official arts organization of the United States government.

The National Endowment for the Arts awards more than \$100 million annually – investing in every state – which in turn generates more than \$700 million in additional support. The Arts Endowment has played a transformative and sustaining role in the development of regional theater, opera, dance, orchestras, museums, and other arts – both contemporary and traditional – that Americans now enjoy.

Mission

The National Endowment for the Arts is a public agency dedicated to supporting excellence in the arts – both new and established – bringing the arts to all Americans, and providing leadership in arts education.

SECTION I - FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

I.A Background

The National Endowment for the Arts (Endowment) is one of the nation's most significant supporters of literary translation. Its grants programs include Literature Fellowships for Translation Projects, as well as support to nonprofit presses for the publication of translations of literary work into English. These efforts broaden the spectrum of international writing available to the nation's readers and help to ensure that America is culturally engaged with the world. Publication of international literature is challenging, and few U.S. publishers have a commitment to providing American readers with access to literary works from abroad. Similarly, the work of highly talented American writers, especially poets, is little known outside of the U.S.

As the official government arts funding agency, the National Endowment for the Arts is committed to funding innovative approaches that expand cross-cultural literary exchange.

In 2006, a historic partnership between the Endowment and Mexico's National Autonomous University brought about the publication of two bilingual poetry anthologies, each presenting 50 poets born after 1946 from each country. The two volumes, *Connecting Lines: New Poetry from Mexico* and *Lineas Conectadas: Nueva Poesía de los Estados Unidos*, represent a model of literary exchange between the U.S. and another country. The National Endowment for the Arts seeks to adapt this model for literary translation projects in partnership with other countries. The resulting publications will expand the range of international poetry available in English to U.S. readers and, conversely, help make the poetry of U.S. authors more widely available in other languages.

The agency expects to support several poetry anthology projects during the next year and is in discussion with literary figures and government representatives of Russia, Austria, and Pakistan. At the time of this solicitation, the model for work with Russia has been confirmed. The anthology plans with Austria and Pakistan are still in development. The Endowment expects to issue a solicitation for an anthology project with Austria in October 2006.

I.B Scope of Work

- I.B.1** The purpose of this Program Solicitation is to enter into a Cooperative Agreement to increase the availability of poetry in translation in the U.S. by providing support for the publication of an anthology of contemporary Russian poetry translated into English and accompanied by outreach activities in the United States to promote the work. The successful recipient of the Cooperative Agreement (Cooperator) must have a strong commitment to international literature to help fulfill this goal. Prior experience dealing with the publication of Russian literature in translation is desirable, but not required.

I.B.2 The Endowment is working with the Foundation for Creative Projects in Moscow and the State Library of Foreign Literature. Poet and literature advocate Evgeniy Bunimovich will be the editor of the anthology of contemporary Russian poetry.

Since the 1970s, Mr. Bunimovich has been involved in the work of Moscow State University's literary workshop and later in the poetry workshop run by Kirrill Kovaldzh, one of the founders of the Moscow literary club "Poetry." Mr. Bunimovich is a founder and chair of the Moscow Poetry Biennial, a festival to celebrate poetry established in 1999. He is editor-in-chief of the poetry anthology *Les poètes de la nouvelle vague en Russie* (Belgium, 1994). His first book of poetry was published in 1990. His poems have been translated and published in France, Belgium, Sweden, Israel, Germany, Mexico and the United States. He received the Moscow Award for Art and Literature and France's Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Palmes Académique.

Mr. Bunimovich will select 44 Russian poets born after 1950 for the anthology and will choose three or four poems from each author. The Endowment anticipates the publication to have approximately 300 pages, including preface, introduction, table of contents, bios, and acknowledgements. This publication will not be bilingual.

The Foundation for Creative Projects will provide the Endowment with a Russian manuscript in a Word document. The manuscript will contain:

- a preface by a representative of the partner organization
- an introduction by the editor
- 3 or 4 poems for each of 44 Russian poets
- biographies of poets in a pre-designed format

The Cooperator will work with James Kates as translation editor. Mr. Kates is the recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts Creative Writing Fellowship in Poetry in 1984 and a Translation Project Fellowship in 2006. He is currently vice-president of the American Literary Translators Association. He is the translator of *The Score of the Game* by Tatiana Shcherbina and *Less Than a Meter* by Mikhail Aizenberg, and the editor of *In the Grip of Strange Thoughts: Russian Poetry in a New Era*. He is also the co-translator of three books of Latin American poetry. His translations of poems by Mikhail Aizenberg, *Say Thank You*, will be published in late 2006. Mr. Kates is President and Co-director of Zephyr Press, a nonprofit press that focuses on contemporary works in translation from Russia, Eastern Europe, and Asia.

The translation editor will work with the Cooperator to identify and contract a team of literary translators. The translation editor will have final approval for all translators.

I.B.3 The Cooperator will be responsible for:

- Developing a production schedule to publish 2,500 paperback copies of the anthology considering the Schedule below.
- Presenting a plan for marketing, promotion, and distribution of the book nationally, including identification of audiences to be targeted and strategies to reach them.
- In coordination with the Endowment, planning a book launch event inviting two Russian poets, to be followed by readings and events in two other cities.
- Complying with all crediting requirements of the Endowment and Russian partners.

I.B.3 The following is a Schedule of tasks/events and the anticipated time frame for completion:

| SCHEDULE | |
|--|--------------------|
| Receive manuscript of poems from Endowment | by November, 2006 |
| Translators confirmed | by November, 2006 |
| Book design concept | by February, 2007 |
| Translations completed | by May, 2007 |
| Final typed copyedited manuscript to Endowment | by June, 2007 |
| Manuscript to typesetter | by July, 2007 |
| Design and proofing completed | by September, 2007 |
| Galleys to Endowment | by October, 2007 |
| Galleys to reviewers and book sellers | by January, 2008 |
| Publication date | by January, 2008 |
| Launch event | by March, 2008 |

SECTION II - AWARD INFORMATION

II.A Only one Cooperative Agreement award is expected to be made. Funding in the amount of \$60,000 is subject to the availability of FY 2007 Funds.

Subject to satisfactory performance, the availability of funds, favorable recommendation of the National Council on the Arts, determination by the Chairman, and mutual agreement of the parties, the National Endowment for the Arts may enter into subsequent Cooperative Agreements with the successful recipient of the Cooperative Agreement resulting from this Program Solicitation.

II.B The Endowment's Project Director will:

- Obtain the manuscript with all items identified above in accordance with the Delivery Schedule.

- Obtain acknowledgements and rights from the Russian partners.
- Provide liaison with Russian partners for activities associated with promotion of the anthology in the U.S.
- Assist in planning the launch event and tour activities.
- Work with Russian partners to facilitate the publication of the anthology of contemporary poetry of the United States in Russia.

SECTION III - ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

- III.A** Established literary publishers that are nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3), U.S. organizations; units of state or local government; or federally-recognized tribal communities or tribes may apply. To be eligible, the applicant organization must have at least a three-year history of publishing prior to the application deadline, and have submitted acceptable Final Report packages by the due date(s) for all Endowment award(s) previously received.
- III.B** Matching is not required.

SECTION IV - APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

- IV.A** This solicitation provides all of the information that you need to submit a proposal.
- IV.B** Proposals in response to this solicitation, in original and two (2) copies shall include a narrative, bios, and budget, collated in the order outlined below. Please print single-sided on white paper, using 12-point type, 1" margins, and include your organization's name at the top of each page and page numbers at the bottom of each page.

IV.B.1 Narrative responses should address the following:

- Describe your organization, including its history, mission, and principal activities. Include information on recent translation and/or poetry books published and a description of any previous work with Russian writers. Provide the name of the distributor.
- A detailed production schedule, based on the Schedule in this Solicitation.

- Plans for marketing and promotion to target audiences, including advertisements; review copies and catalogs; website promotion; a book launch event; and author tours, including information on any community partnerships envisioned.

IV.B.2 Bios for key personnel involved in the project. Please include at least three bios per page.

IV.B.3 A detailed Budget that should include a translation editor fee of \$3,000, payments to translators, copyeditor and proofreader fees (if not included as staff time), staff salaries including the percentage of staff time devoted to the project, printing, shipping (galley, etc.) travel and per diem for tour.

Please use the budget form at

<http://www.arts.gov/grants/apply/GAP07/Budget.doc>

Instructions are located at

<http://www.arts.gov/grants/apply/GAP07/CompletingForms.html#3> Additional schedules or supporting information may be provided, as necessary. In addition, if indirect cost is proposed, include a copy of the most recent indirect cost rate agreement with your cognizant Federal audit agency.

IV.B.4 DUNS Number.

IV.B.5 A copy of a letter from the Internal Revenue Service that reflects the applicant's current 501(c)(3) status and legal organization name, or the official document that identifies the applicant as a unit of state or local government, or as a federally-recognized tribal community or tribe.

IV.C Proposals in response to this solicitation must be received by **October 2, 2006** at:

National Endowment for the Arts

Grants & Contracts Office, Room 618

1100 Pennsylvania Ave, N. W., Washington, D.C. 20506

IV.D Any proposal received after the time specified for receipt will not be considered unless: it was sent by mail and it was determined by the National Endowment for the Arts that the late receipt was due solely to mishandling by the Endowment after receipt at the Endowment; or it is the only proposal received; or it offers significant cost or technical advantage, and it is received before an award determination has been made.

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SECTION V - APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

V.A Proposals received in response to this Solicitation will be evaluated and a Cooperative Agreement will be entered into with the applicant whose proposal is determined to be most advantageous to the Government. The evaluation will be based on artistic excellence and artistic merit, and include the following considerations:

V.A.1 Artistic excellence:

- The quality of the publishing organization, including its experience in publishing contemporary poetry and/or other publishing work in translation.
- Potential design and production quality.

V.A.2 Artistic Merit

- Quality and clarity of distribution, marketing, and promotion plans
- The qualifications and experience of staff involved in the project
- Appropriateness of the budget
- The ability to carry out the project.

SECTION VI - AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

VI.A Cooperative Agreement

The instrument that will be awarded as a result of this Program Solicitation is a Cooperative Agreement, as defined by the Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act of 1977, Public Law 95-224. A Cooperative Agreement is a cost reimbursement instrument. No fee or profit (or other increment above allowable cost) is allowed.

For nonprofit organizations except colleges and universities, the provisions of Office of Management and Budget Circulars A-110 ("Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals and Other Nonprofit Organizations") and A-122 as amended ("Cost Principles for Nonprofit Organizations") will be incorporated by reference into the Cooperative Agreement.

For colleges and universities, the provisions of OMB Circulars A-110 and A-21 ("Cost Principles for Educational Institutions"), as amended, will be incorporated by reference into the Cooperative Agreement.

For units of state and local governments and federally recognized Indian Tribal governments, the provisions of the government-wide Common Rule issued pursuant to Office of Management and Budget Circular A-102 and codified by the National

Endowment for the Arts as "Part 1157-Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements," Office of Management and Budget Circulars A-128 ("Audits of State and Local Governments"), and A-87 ("Cost Principles Applicable to Grants and Contracts with State and Local Governments") will be incorporated by reference into the Cooperative Agreement.

VI.B General Terms and Conditions

National Endowment for the Arts Cooperative Agreements are subject to the General Terms and Conditions for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to Organizations, located on the National Endowment for the Arts website at: <http://www.arts.gov/manageaward/CoopAgreements.html>

VI.C Assurances of Compliance

Assurance of Compliance with Non Discrimination Requirements

By submission of a proposal, the proposer hereby agrees that it will execute projects, productions, workshops and programs in accordance with the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, where applicable. Copies of the nondiscrimination regulations identified above may be obtained by writing to the Office of Civil Rights, National Endowment for the Arts, 1100 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Washington, D.C. 20506.

Certification Concerning Debarment and Suspension

The Proposer certifies that, as required by regulations implementing Executive Order 12549, "Debarment and Suspension," neither it nor its principals: (a) is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency; (b) has, within a three-year period preceding this proposal, been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against it for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with a public (Federal, State, or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; for violation of Federal or state antitrust statutes; or for commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property; (c) is presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in (b) of this certification; and (d) has within a three-year period preceding this proposal had any public transactions terminated for cause or default; and that it will include this clause without modification in all lower tier covered transactions (excluding contracts under \$25,000), solicitations, and proposals.

Where the Proposer or any lower tier participant is unable to certify to this statement, it shall provide an explanation to the Endowment Grants & Contracts Office.

Delinquent Debt Certification

The Proposer certifies that it is not delinquent on any Federal debt or, if it is, will provide explanatory information. Examples of relevant debt include delinquent taxes, audit disallowance, benefit overpayments.

Labor Standards Assurance and Drug-Free Workplace Act Certification

The successful recipient of the Cooperative Agreement will also be required to provide assurance of compliance with the labor standards set out in "Part 505 (29 CFR) - Labor Standards on Projects or Productions Assisted by Grants from the National Endowment for the Arts," in accordance with the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965, as amended (20 U.S.C. 951 et seq.); and provide the certification required by the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 (41 U.S.C. 701 et seq.; also implemented through the Debarment and Suspension regulations).

VI.D Reporting

- VI.D.1** The National Endowment for the Arts is required to report on the geographic locations of grant and Cooperative Agreement activities. To ensure the accuracy of this information, the Cooperator shall submit a completed *Geographic Location of Project Activity* form within 30 days after award of the Cooperative Agreement, or with the first request for payment, whichever comes first. The form is located at <http://www.arts.gov/manageaward/CoopAgreements.html>
- VI.D.2** No later than 90 days after the completion or termination of the Cooperative Agreement, the Cooperator shall submit to the Endowment Grants & Contracts Office, Cooperative Agreement Section, and the Endowment Project Director a Final Descriptive Report (FDR), and a Financial Status Report, Standard Form 269. Report forms are located on the National Endowment for the Arts website at: <http://www.arts.gov/manageaward/CoopAgreements.html>.

SECTION VII - AGENCY CONTACTS

For information on this solicitation, write or call:

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1100 Pennsylvania Ave, N. W., Washington, D.C. 20506
TELEPHONE: (202) 682-5417
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Email: contracts@arts.gov

SECTION VIII - OTHER INFORMATION

Rejection and Award.

The National Endowment for the Arts reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.